

***Head of a man* chronology**

- 1940** The NGV purchased *Head of a man* (through the Felton Bequest) from Lieutenant Colonel Victor Alexander Cazalet, MP for Cranbrook, Kent and London
- 1999** The NGV established a provenance research project and was the first Australian gallery to publish on its website the details of works that have incomplete provenance (history of ownership) during the years of Nazi rule.
- 2006** The attribution (authorship) of *Head of a man* came under question by international scholars. NGV sent the work to the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, the leading institution for authentication of works by Vincent Van Gogh, for expert appraisal.
- 2007** A comprehensive report by the Van Gogh Museum concluded that *Head of a man* was not by Van Gogh. A summary of the report was made publicly available.
- Dec 2011** New research revealed that one of work's previous owners – known previously as 'Collector S' – was a Richard Semmel who sold the work at auction in 1933. The provenance research website was updated.
- Aug 2013** The NGV was contacted by a researcher from Facts and Files Historical Research Institute Berlin (a provenance research organisation), on behalf of the legal representative of the heirs of Mr Semmel, prompted by information viewed on the provenance research website.
- Dec 2013** The NGV received correspondence from the legal representative of the heirs of Mr Semmel, outlining the background of Mr Semmel, the forced sale of the work, and requesting the return of the painting to its rightful owners.
- May 2014** Following comprehensive research and consultation the NGV acknowledges the claimants as legitimate heirs and rightful owners of *Head of a man*.